HAROLD WEISBERG
7627 Old Receiver Rd.
Frederick, MD 21702

The Attorney General
The Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

1/12/94

Dear Ms. Reno,

I hope this letter gets your attention or that of someone in your office who will consult with me if in checking there is any kind of negative response to your office. One reason is that I believe you should be aware of the situation about which I write. Another is that in the past those who held your office were misled and deceived when they made inquiries. Another is that I have been for a book of the pictures of which I seek copies and if I ask the FBI for them that is a waste of time. I say this from long and personal experience. In addition, the pictures I seek should have been provided me in C.A. 78-0322 and were not.

(Please excuse my typing. I am 80, in impaired health and it cannot be any better.)

In the FOIA lawsuit, C.A.78-0322, I sought all the Dallas FBI records in any way related to the assassination of President Kennedy and its investigations. The FBI stonewalled it for more than a decade. One of its means of stonewalling was false swearing to what existed, was searched for or was provided. It got to where even as a layman I was confident that this repetitious false swearing was so material it did constitute perjury. If it is so inclined the Civil Division can give you its reponse, that I could make such allegations ad infinitim because I know more about the JFK assassination than anyone employed by the FBI. And the court accepted that as exculpatory!

With regard to pictures, which was the subject of repetitious false swearing, I was given not a single one. Instead I was given useless xeroxes that were described to that court as other than xeroxes, under oath.

The pictures I ask for and believe should have been provided in that litigation may be as few as five. This represents only minor cost. At least four, perhaps more, are of the alleged murder weapon as it was found. At least one is a news picture of the spot on the curbstone struck during the shooting. My sources are the two of the Dallas police who took the pictures of the rifle as found, Lt. Carl Day and his photographer assistant, Robert Lee Studebaker, in the Warren Commission testimony. Tom Dillard was chief photographer for the Dallas Morning News when he told me that of his pictures of that curbstone, taken the day after the assassination, the best were taken and not return.

The pictures of the rifle as found the FBI gave to the Warren Commission are much less clear than they could and should have been. With regard to other pictures given the Commission by the FBI an Archives photographer who was about to retire told me the FBI employed its not inconsiderable skills to make them as poor in quality as they were. For example, pictures of the President shirt the FBI gave the Commission obscured even its

pattern! I had to file suit to be able to see that pattern, although that was not the purpose of that FOIA lawsuit. (I filed a dozen or so. As a result I have and leave as a permanent free puhlic archives about a third of a million once-withheld pages. Most are the FBI's. The Congress cited one of these, one of the earliest of them, as requiring the 1974 amending of the investigatory files exemption.)

I correct an above statement. The first time I saw that shirt's pattern was when regulations required addressing FOIA requests to the deputy attorney general. When Mr Kleindiests saw the pictures I requested he mailed them me me. One was a picture not given to the Warren Commission. It was clear and did show that pattern.

I have published seven book on two of our assassination. Six were on the President's, one was on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s. None of my books theorize any conspiracy. None of the many FBI records I've received attribute any factual error to me and none was attributed to me in any of those lawsuits.

I think you should know the reason I want that clear picture of the impact on that curbstone.

When the Commisson first asked the FBI to provide such a picture the Dallas office responded that the mark or chip had been removed - from the curve of that curbstone - by street-washing equipment! That was not accepted. The FBI sent a Lab photographic expert, SA Lyndal Shaneyfelt, to Dallas to provide that picture. He had that curbstone dug up, flew it to the Lab and went through the charade of a test, spectrographic, of the obviously patched curbstone! That the FBI was fully aware of this is disclosed in the synopsis of an August 5, 1964 report I enclose. The spectrographic analysis of which virtually no records were provided in my lawsuit seeking such information, C.A. 75-226, reported only two of the elements of a bullet when that test is fine to at least a part per million. And, unsworn, the FBI's explanation of its not having the photograph that is the basis of that test is that it was probably discarded to save space! The reason is obvious: what was tested is a "smear" in the FBI's word of the test of a concrete paste that was used in making the quite visible patch.

The FBI's attitude toward factual criticism of it in my second book was to authorize Shaneyfelt to file suit against me in its name. The decision was left to him. He chickened out. When he blurted this out, and I later got the records confirming it, when we deposed him I offered to waive the statute of limitations and to pay his filing costs. I then did that in writing. There was never any response. The FBI's legal counsel division held that he was not a public figure and on that basis alone approved the filing of the suit. It did not address whether or not what I wrote was correct in its decision.

If there is any other information you would like to have, please let me know.

I do hope you have these pictures given to me. Otherwise I will have to explain in this book why I use pictures that are of such poor quality.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: ROBERT P. GEMBERLING
Date: 8/5/64

Office: DALLAS

Field Office File No.: DL 100-10461

Bureau File No.: 105-82555

Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Synopsis:

CLOTILE WILLIAMS heard assassination shots while standing on northwest corner of Houston and Elm Streets, Dallas, Texas, but did not see anything that aroused her suspicion and did not know from where the shots came. Supplemental listing of exhibits by item number and description prepared. Additional investigation conducted concerning mark on curb on south side of Main Street near triple underpass, which it is alleged was possibly caused by bullet fired during assassination. No evidence of mark or nick on curb now visible. Photographs taken of location where mark once appeared, together with other photographs reflecting angle of such location in relation to the sixth floor window of the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) from which assassination shots fired. Photographs also taken from inside sixth floor of TSBD southeast corner window from which assassination shots fired, showing distance between floor and window sill and height of opening in the window when window half open. Photographs taken of person approximate height of OSWALD showing relative position of window ledge and window to such person. Photographs taken at Methodist Hospital of Dallas of bone specimen allegedly from skull of President KENNEDY obtained. Additional investigation conducted with negative results concerning claim by Mrs. EDITH WHITWORTH that she directed OSWALD family to Irving Sports Shop, Irving, Texas, in early November 1963, which investigation consisted of interviews of certain parents of female babies born 10/20/63, in the Irving and Dallas, Texas, area to determine if they were the individuals

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